THE LINE OF
DC
SUPER-STARS
WITH ONE MAGIC WORD...
20¢
NO. 10 FEB.
30688
SHAZAM
SHAZAM!
THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARRY ME, YOU BIG RED CHEESE-- OR ELSE!
S-1667
EXTRA! A BRAND-NEW MARY MARVEL STORY!

SHAZAM!™

ALL THE POWERS OF SIX GREAT GODS AND HEROES HAVE BEEN GATHERED TOGETHER AND PLACED IN THE HANDS OF BOY BROADCASTER **BILLY BATSON!**

WHEN HE PRONOUNCES THE NAME OF THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN WIZARD, *SHAZAM*, HE BECOMES, IN A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHTNING, **CAPTAIN MARVEL**, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!

THEN, WHEN EVIL IS DEFEATED, CAPTAIN MARVEL REPEATS THE WORD AND CHANGES BACK TO BILLY! SO AMAZING AND SUDDEN IS THE CHANGE THAT MOST PEOPLE NEVER REALIZE WHAT HAS HAPPENED!

A WISH BY BILLY BATSON IS TURNED INTO AN ADVENTURE INVOLVING THE STRANGEST PEOPLE CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS EVER MET... AS THE ENTIRE CITY BRACES FOR AN...

"INVASION OF THE SALAD MEN!"

STORY BY: ELLIOT S! MAGGIN
ART BY: BOB OKSNER & VINCE COLLETTA
EDITING BY: JULIE SCHWARTZ

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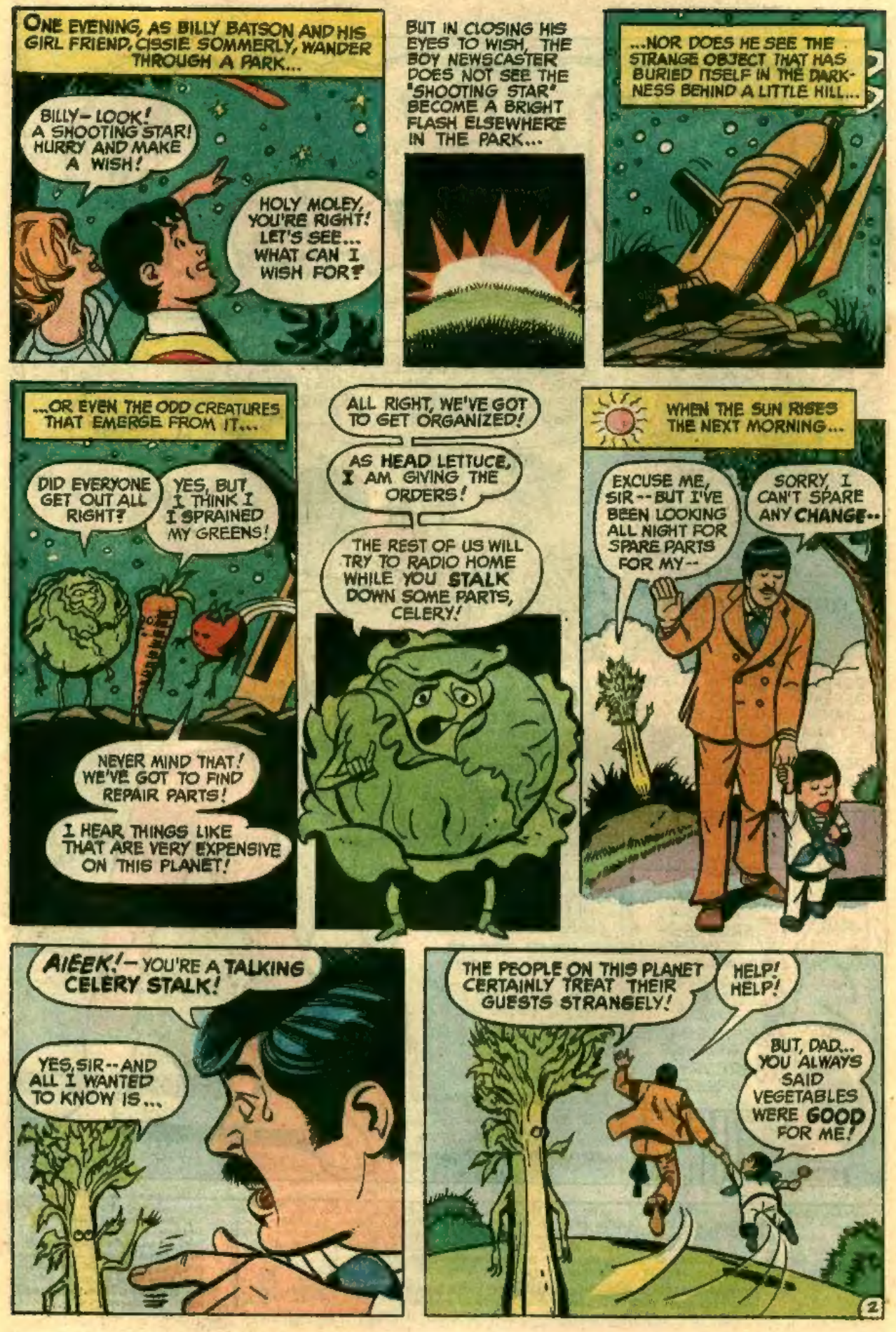

ONE EVENING, AS BILLY BATSON AND HIS GIRL FRIEND, CISSIE SOMMERLY, WANDER THROUGH A PARK...
BILLY—LOOK! A SHOOTING STAR! HURRY AND MAKE A WISH!
HOLY MOLEY, YOU'RE RIGHT! LET'S SEE... WHAT CAN I WISH FOR?
BUT IN CLOSING HIS EYES TO WISH, THE BOY NEWSCASTER DOES NOT SEE THE "SHOOTING STAR" BECOME A BRIGHT FLASH ELSEWHERE IN THE PARK...
...NOR DOES HE SEE THE STRANGE OBJECT THAT HAS BURIED ITSELF IN THE DARKNESS BEHIND A LITTLE HILL...
...OR EVEN THE ODD CREATURES THAT EMERGE FROM IT...
DID EVERYONE GET OUT ALL RIGHT?
YES, BUT I THINK I I SPRAINED MY GREENS!
NEVER MIND THAT! WE'VE GOT TO FIND REPAIR PARTS!
I HEAR THINGS LIKE THAT ARE VERY EXPENSIVE ON THIS PLANET!
ALL RIGHT, WE'VE GOT TO GET ORGANIZED!
AS HEAD LETTUCE, I AM GIVING THE ORDERS!
THE REST OF US WILL TRY TO RADIO HOME WHILE YOU STALK DOWN SOME PARTS, CELERY!
WHEN THE SUN RISES THE NEXT MORNING...
EXCUSE ME, SIR -- BUT I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL NIGHT FOR SPARE PARTS FOR MY --
SORRY, I CAN'T SPARE ANY CHANGE--
AIEEK!—YOU'RE A TALKING CELERY STALK!
YES, SIR -- AND ALL I WANTED TO KNOW IS...
THE PEOPLE ON THIS PLANET CERTAINLY TREAT THEIR GUESTS STRANGELY!
HELP! HELP!
BUT, DAD... YOU ALWAYS SAID VEGETABLES WERE GOOD FOR ME!
2

ELSEWHERE IN THE PARK...
EXCUSE ME, YOUNG LADY, BUT MY FRIENDS AND I CRASH-LANDED LAST NIGHT...
...WE'RE ON OUR WAY BACK TO OUR HOME PLANET OF SALATA...
...AND WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHERE THE CLOSEST SPACESHIP SERVICE STATION IS--
HELP! A BUNCH OF TALKING VEGETABLES IS INVADING THE CITY!
MAYBE THEY WANT THEIR REVENGE FOR BEING SPRAYED WITH SO MUCH INSECT POISON!
HOLY MOLEY!
HURRY! THEY'VE TAKEN OVER THE PARK! WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!
THAT SOUNDS LOGICAL! BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN BE OF MORE HELP...
SHAZAM!
FROM THE FURTHEST REACHES OF THE UNIVERSE COMES A CLAP OF THUNDER AND A BLINDING FLASH TO BRING...
...THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!
CAPTAIN MARVEL -- HELP US TOSS THE SALAD INVADERS OUT OF THE PARK BEFORE THEY STEAL OUR HOMES!
I'VE SEEN NO PROOF THAT THEY'RE DANGEROUS AT ALL...
...SO I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR MYSELF!
SURE ENOUGH ...THERE'S A TOMATO WALKING AROUND BELOW!
AFTER CAPTAIN MARVEL INTRODUCES HIMSELF TO THE INTERPLANETARY VISITORS...
CAPTAIN MARVEL! WE'VE HEARD OF YOU EVEN ON THE PLANET SALATA!
WE'RE NOT INVADERS! WE'RE LOST! YOU MUST SAVE US FROM THAT CROWD OF PEOPLE!
GRAB MY CAPE AND I'LL FLY YOU AWAY FROM HERE!
HURRY, EVERYONE! THEY'RE ESCAPING!
8

THEY DO GET AWAY... AND WHEN THEY ARE A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE PANICKY CROWDS...
...AND SO WHEN OUR RAMAFRAM CONKED OUT, SO DID THE SOLDERED FLADERER!
BEFORE WE KNEW IT, EVERYTHING ON THE SHIP STARTED COMING APART FROM THE HYDIDDLE TO THE MULFELDER!
HMM, I SEE--
I'LL TAKE YOU TO A HARDWARE STORE! THEY MIGHT HAVE THE SPARE PARTS YOU NEED!
PRESENTLY, IN THE O&V HARDWARE SHOP...
MR. VINEGAR, I WONDER IF YOU HAVE THE SPARE PARTS MY FRIENDS NEED TO REPAIR THEIR SPACESHIP?
WE'LL NEED A SIZE 47-Z FLADERER AND A--
OMIGOSH! IT'S THOSE VEGETABLES WHO ARE CONQUERING THE CITY!
THEY'RE HERE! THE VEGETABLE PEOPLE! THEY'VE TAKEN OVER MY STORE!
THESE EARTH-PEOPLE CERTAINLY SEEM EXCITABLE!
SIR--UH... WAIT A MINUTE...
OH, NO! THE SHOPKEEPER'S ALREADY TOLD A BUNCH OF PEOPLE WE'RE HERE!
WE'D BETTER GET OUT BEFORE WE'RE MOBBED!
BUT WITH THE SPEED OF MERCURY, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL HAS ALREADY THROWN OPEN THE BACK DOOR OF THE SHOP AND...
QUICK! OUT THIS WAY!
WHERE ARE THEY?
LET US AT THEM!
SECONDS LATER...
WHERE ARE THOSE TALKING VEGETABLES?
THERE'S NOBODY HERE BUT US SUPER-HEROES!
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING
4

SOON, AT ANOTHER HARDWARE STORE...
HELLO, SIR--I WAS JUST COMING HOME FROM GROCERY SHOPPING AND I THOUGHT I'D DROP IN TO GET SOME PARTS FOR A SPACESHIP I WAS, UHH--BUILDING!
WELL, I HOPE I CAN BE OF HELP TO YOU, CAPTAIN MARVEL!

HMM... WHERE DID YOU GET SUCH RIPE VEGETABLES THIS TIME OF YEAR?
OH, THEY'RE FROM OUT OF TOWN! I CAN FLY ANYWHERE TO GO SHOPPING, YOU KNOW!

BUT AS CAPTAIN MARVEL SHOWS THE SHOPKEEPER HIS LIST OF SPACESHIP PARTS...
THESE PARTS WILL HAVE TO BE CUSTOM-MADE! THEY'LL COST $203,000!
HOLY MOLEY! I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY TO SPEND!
THAT'S WHY YOU SELDOM SEE ANYONE WITH HIS OWN PRIVATE MOON ROCKET!

WELL, I'LL SEE IF I CAN GET THE MONEY TOGETHER AND--
AHH-CHOOOO!
SAY--THAT SNEEZE SEEMED TO COME FROM THAT BAG OF--

AHH-CHOOO!
MUST BE A CHANGE IN THE WEATHER COMING ON!
GESUNDHEIT, CAPTAIN MARVEL! HOPE YOU GET OVER YOUR COLD!

IT'S GOOD TO KNOW THAT EVEN THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL CAN BE A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER...
...MAKES HIM SEEM MORE HUMAN!

BUT THE MAN-IN-RED AND THE VEGETABLE-PEOPLE ARE RIGHT BACK WHERE THEY STARTED--OR ARE THEY?...
I HEARD THINGS WERE EXPENSIVE ON THIS PLANET ...BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
HOLY MOLEY! I'VE GOT AN IDEA THAT MAY SOLVE ALL YOUR PROBLEMS!
5

THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL EXPLAINS HIS PLAN, AND IT IS AN ALARMING SIGHT THAT THE CITY'S CITIZENS SOON WITNESS AS...
CAPTAIN MARVEL, WE ORDER YOU TO TELL THE HUMANS OF THE WORLD TO SURRENDER TO OUR VEGETABLE EMPIRE!
I WOULD NEVER LEAVE THE EARTH IN THE HANDS OF CREATURES LIKE YOU!
THE AIR FORCE, THE ARMY AND THE NAVY--EVEN THE MARINES--COULDN'T STOP US!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN?
THEN I'M EARTH'S LAST HOPE!
TAKE THAT, YOU RED-SUITED MAMMAL!
HOLY MOLEY--YOU'RE KNOCKING ME OVER!
URFF--
TEE-HEE!
TEE-HEE!
WILL YOU SURRENDER YOUR PLANET NOW?
YOU'RE PRETTY STRONG FOR A BUNCH OF LEAVES AND ROOTS...
...BUT MY ANSWER IS STILL NEVER!
THIS WILL MAKE HIM CHANGE HIS MIND!
THAT'S IT, LETTUCE! HOLD HIS NOSE CLOSED AND STUFF YOUR LEAVES INTO HIS MOUTH!
THAT ARTICHOKE HIM!
TODAY, CAPTAIN MARVEL...
...TOMORROW THE WORLD!
WHAT'S THIS?--THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL BEING DONE IN BY A BUNCH OF POWER-HUNGRY PLANTS?!
6

BUT THIS BATTLE DIDN'T REALLY HAPPEN, FOR...
WAS I RELIEVED TO FIND OUT THAT SCARE ABOUT TALKING VEGETABLES TAKING OVER THE CITY WAS JUST A PUBLICITY STUNT FOR THIS MOVIE!
IT WAS A MARVELOUS MAKE-UP JOB! THOSE ACTORS LOOKED JUST LIKE A CAESAR SALAD!
INVASION OF THE SALAD MEN!
OPENING TONIGHT

AS CAPTAIN MARVEL--ONE OF THE MOVIE'S STARS--WALKS OUT OF THE THEATER WITH A DARK-COATED FRIEND...
WELL, HOW DID YOU LIKE THE MOVIE?
IT CAME OUT FINE! ...WOULD YOU GIVE US A RIDE TO THE PARK NOW?

THANKS FOR THE LIFT, CAPTAIN MARVEL...

IT'S GOOD TO GET OUT OF THAT STUFFY COAT! YOU GUYS WERE WRINKLING MY LEAVES!
YOU'RE SURE YOUR SPACESHIP IS IN GOOD SHAPE NOW?
ABSOLUTELY, CAPTAIN MARVEL...

...WE MADE ENOUGH MONEY FROM OUR MOVIE TO BUY ALL THE SPARE PARTS WE NEED!
THEN HAVE A GOOD TRIP HOME! DRIVE DEFENSIVELY--

--AND GIVE MY REGARDS TO THE PLANET SALATA! MAYBE I'LL VISIT YOU THERE SOMETIME!
7

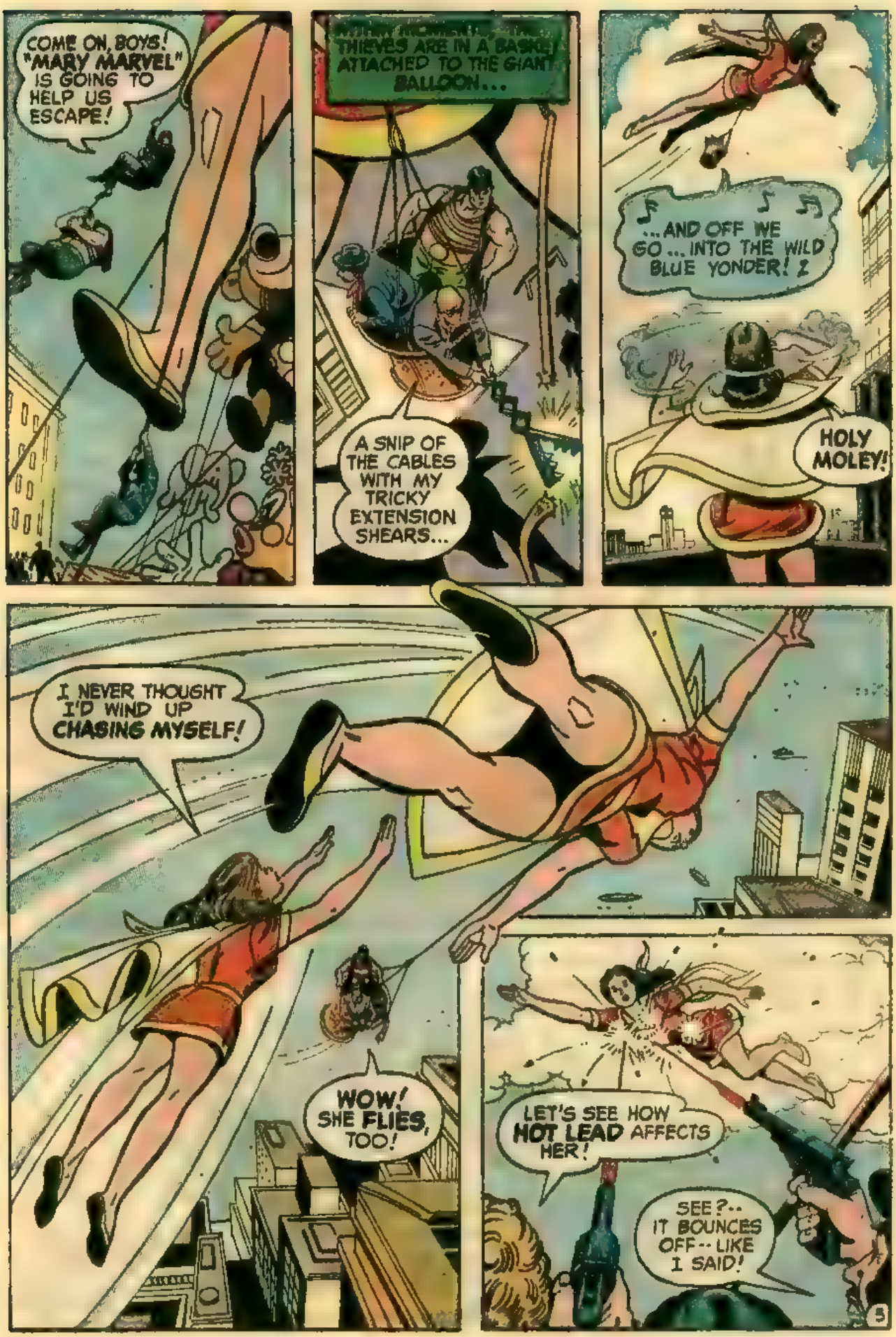
OH... WHAT DID I WISH ON THE "FALLING STAR"?
I WISHED I COULD BE A MOVIE STAR FOR A DAY--AND I WAS...AS CAPTAIN MARVEL!
THE END

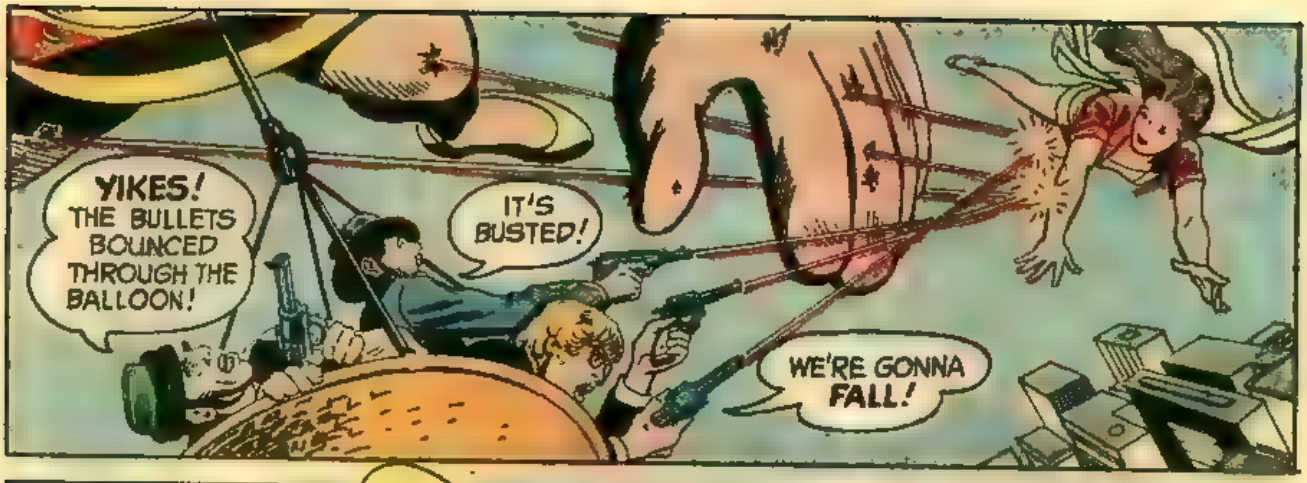
PRESENTING THE FIRST IN A NEW SERIES OF SOLO ADVENTURES OF THE SHAZAM! GIRL...
Mary Marvel
HOLY MOLEY! I FEEL LIKE I'M CHASING ... MYSELF!
STORY- E. NELSON BRIDWELL
ART- BOB OKSNER
EDITING- JULIUS SCHWARTZ
MARY MARVEL, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL, IS BACK IN ACTION-- FOR CRIME TAKES NO HOLIDAYS, SO MARY DOESN'T, EITHER! AS YOU'LL LEARN IN THIS SPECIAL HOLIDAY THRILLER...
"THE THANKSGIVING THIEVES!"
THANKSGIVING DAY, 1973 -- A SPECIAL DAY FOR MARY BATSON AND HER FOSTER MOTHER, MRS. BROMFIELD...
I WISH YOU DIDN'T INSIST ON SEEING THE THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE IN PERSON, MARY!
YOU COULD JUST AS WELL WATCH IT ON TELEVISION!
BUT, MOTHER-- MARY MARVEL IS GOING TO BE THE GRAND MARSHAL! I CAN'T MISS THAT!
I KNOW YOU'RE A FAN OF HERS! NATURAL, I SUPPOSE -- SAME FIRST NAME!
BUT DO BE HOME IN TIME FOR DINNER! TURKEY AND ALL THE TRIMMINGS!
I WILL, MOTHER! 'BYE!

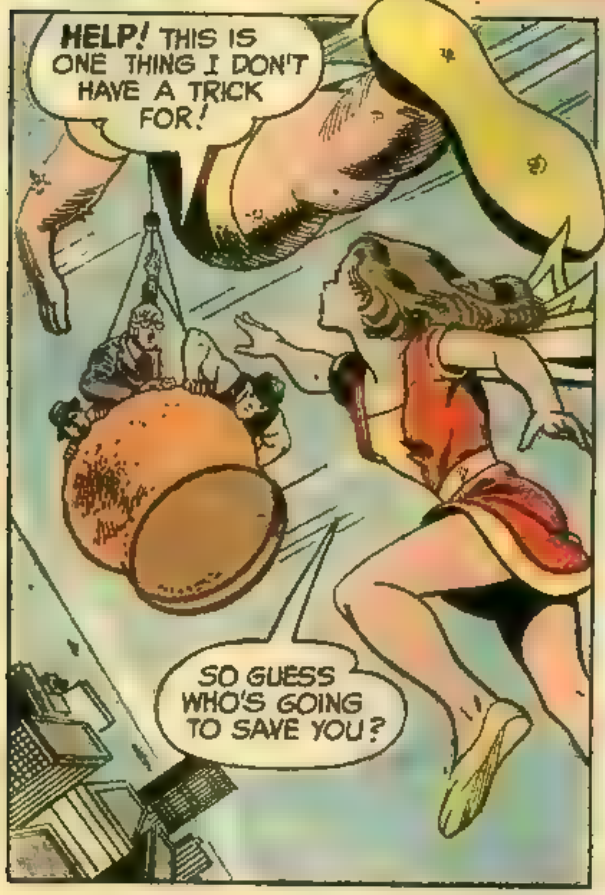
WOULDN'T MOTHER BE SURPRISED IF SHE KNEW WHY I HAVE TO BE AT THE PARADE!
SHAZAM!
WHEN MARY SPEAKS THE NAME OF THE WIZARD SHAZAM, MAGIC LIGHTNING BLAZES DOWN TO CHANGE HER INTO...
...MARY MARVEL, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL!
HAVE TO HURRY IF I'M TO GET THERE BEFORE THE PARADE STARTS!
AND SECONDS LATER, AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PARADE ROUTE...
HAPPY THANKSGIVING, EVERYBODY!
GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT, MARY! WE'RE PLEASED TO HAVE YOU AS THIS YEAR'S GRAND MARSHAL!
WE EVEN HAVE A GIANT MARY MARVEL BALLOON IN YOUR HONOR!
HOLY MOLEY! WHAT A TRIBUTE!
THEN, AS THE PROCESSION LINES UP, ABOUT TO START...
I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'VE HAD SUCH A THRILL! I'LL BE THE CENTER OF ATTRACTION!
2

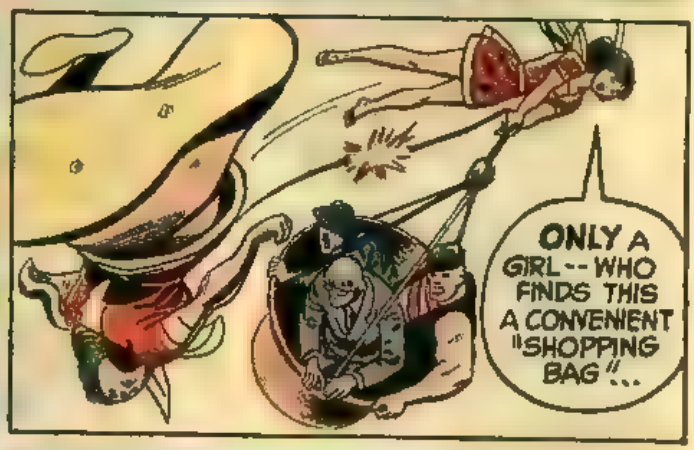
BUT WHILE MOST PEOPLE ARE GATHERING TO WATCH THE PARADE, OTHERS ARE BUSILY AT WORK... DIRTY WORK...
OKAY, LET'S DO IT! NO ONE'S LOOKING THIS WAY!
YA SURE YA CAN OPEN THE STORE WITHOUT SETTIN' OFF THE ALARM, TRICKS?
FURS
CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
I DIDN'T GET MY NAME FOR PULLING RABBITS OUT OF HATS, SNEAK!
SEE? THIS TRICKY GIMMICK UNLOCKS THE DOOR AND DISCONNECTS THE ALARM AT THE SAME TIME!
ONLY TAKE THE MOST EXPENSIVE FURS! WE DON'T WANT TO OVERLOAD OURSELVES WITH CHEAP WRAPS!
MINUTES LATER...
EASIEST HEIST WE EVER PULLED, BOSS!
HURRY-- TO OUR GETAWAY CAR!
SUPPOSE THIS MARY MARVEL BUTTS INTA THE GAME? SHE'S IN THE PARADE, YA KNOW ...STARTIN' A BLOCK FROM HERE!
SO WHAT? SHE'S ONLY A GIRL!
THAT'S RIGHT-- ONLY A GIRL! ONE WHO SPOTTED YOU ROBBING THAT STORE FROM MY HIGH PERCH ON THE FRONT FLOAT!
WANT TO SEE HOW MUCH THAT ONLY IS WORTH?
:ULP!: SHE'S TAKEN THE WHEELS OFF OUR CAR!
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING
3

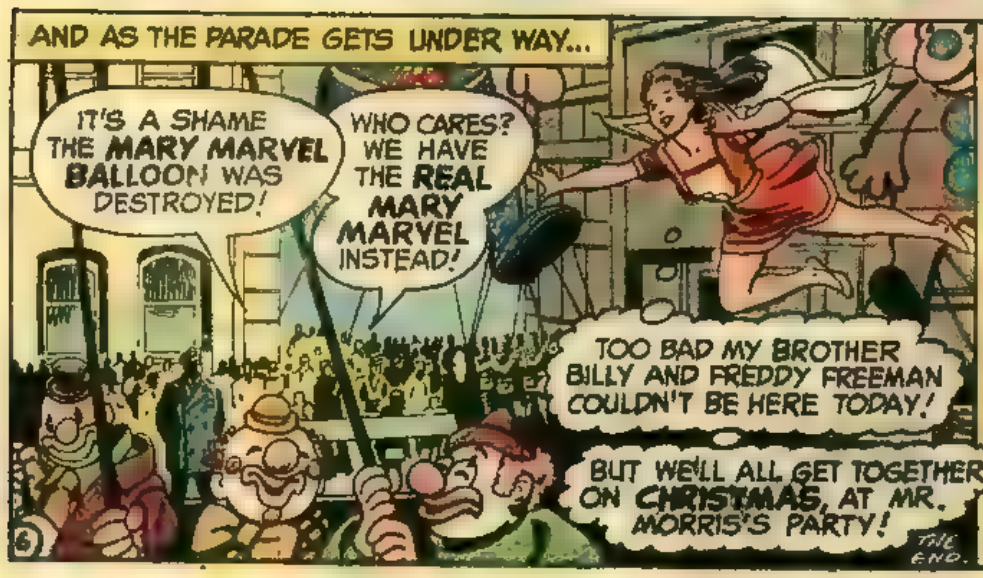
THEY SAY SHE'S CAPTAIN MARVEL'S SISTER!
NO DAME COULD BE AS TOUGH AS HE IS!
SHOW HIM, BRUISER!
MY PLEASURE, BOSS!
NO PARKING
YA SEE THIS HEAVY SIGN?
NO PARKING
WATCH ME FLATTEN HER WITH IT!
NOW, IF SHE WAS AS TOUGH AS CAPTAIN MARVEL, SHE'D STILL BE STANDIN' THERE, SMILIN'--RIGHT?
D-D-DON'T LOOK NOW, B-BUT...
DON'T TELL ME SHE'S STILL STANDIN' THERE, SMILIN'?!
SHE'S STILL STANDIN' THERE, SMILIN'!
I SAID DON'T TELL ME!
WE MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP! I BETCHA BULLETS BOUNCE OFF HER, TOO!
BUT THIS TRICK-GUN DOESN'T SHOOT BULLETS!
LET'S SEE HER NAB US WITH SMOKE IN HER EYES!
4


COME ON, BOYS! "MARY MARVEL" IS GOING TO HELP US ESCAPE!
THE THIEVES ARE IN A BASKET ATTACHED TO THE GIANT BALLOON...
A SNIP OF THE CABLES WITH MY TRICKY EXTENSION SHEARS...
...AND OFF WE GO... INTO THE WILD BLUE YONDER!
HOLY MOLEY!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D WIND UP CHASING MYSELF!
WOW! SHE FLIES, TOO!
LET'S SEE HOW HOT LEAD AFFECTS HER!
SEE?.. IT BOUNCES OFF -- LIKE I SAID!
5





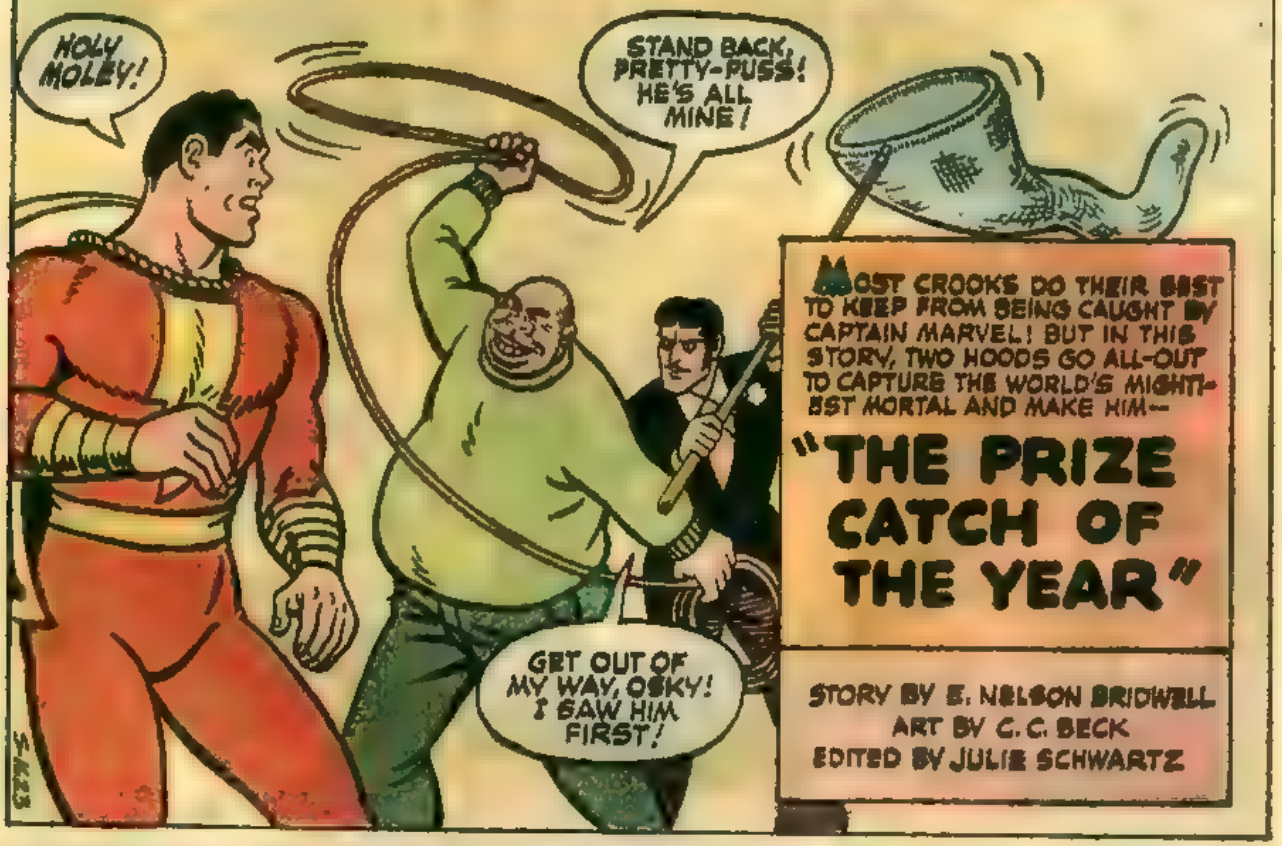



AND AS THE PARADE GETS UNDER WAY...
IT'S A SHAME THE MARY MARVEL BALLOON WAS DESTROYED!
WHO CARES? WE HAVE THE REAL MARY MARVEL INSTEAD!
TOO BAD MY BROTHER BILLY AND FREDDY FREEMAN COULDN'T BE HERE TODAY!
BUT WE'LL ALL GET TOGETHER ON CHRISTMAS, AT MR. MORRIS'S PARTY!
THE END.
6

DON'T MISS THE STARTLING SURPRISE THAT AWAITS THE ENTIRE MARVEL FAMILY IN "THE YEAR WITHOUT A CHRISTMAS" IN THE NEXT (MARCH) ISSUE OF SHAZAM!

ON SALE THE THIRD WEEK IN DECEMBER.

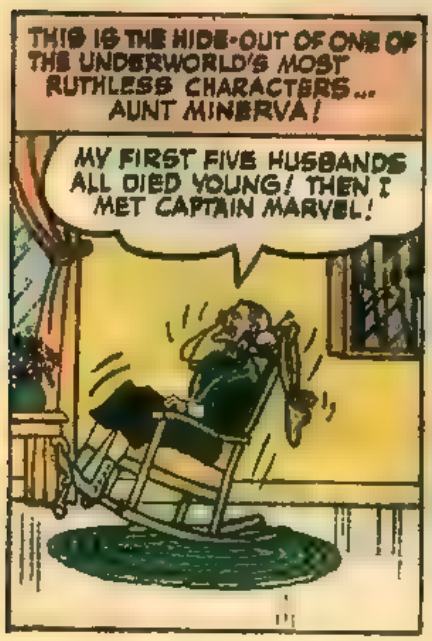
SHAZAM!

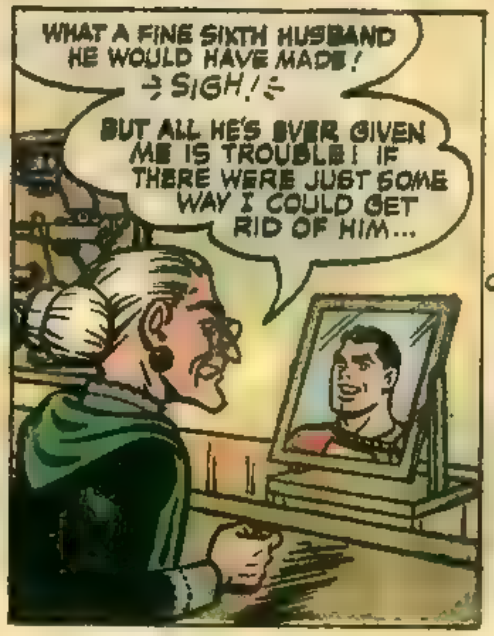


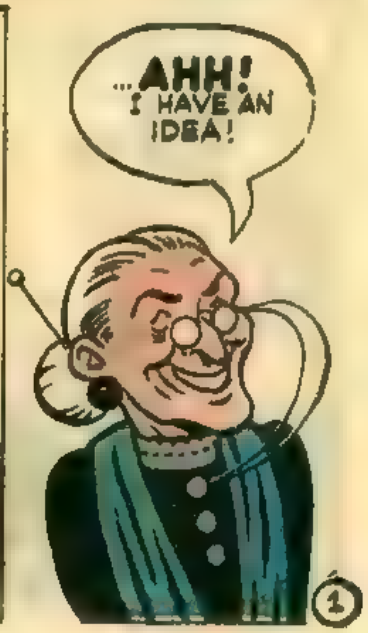
MOST CROOKS DO THEIR BEST TO KEEP FROM BEING CAUGHT BY CAPTAIN MARVEL! BUT IN THIS STORY, TWO HOODS GO ALL-OUT TO CAPTURE THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL AND MAKE HIM—

"THE PRIZE CATCH OF THE YEAR"

STORY BY E. NELSON BRIDWELL
ART BY C. C. BECK
EDITED BY JULIE SCHWARTZ


THIS IS THE HIDE-OUT OF ONE OF THE UNDERWORLD'S MOST RUTHLESS CHARACTERS... AUNT MINERVA!
MY FIRST FIVE HUSBANDS ALL DIED YOUNG! THEN I MET CAPTAIN MARVEL!


WHAT A FINE SIXTH HUSBAND HE WOULD HAVE MADE! →SIGH!←
BUT ALL HE'S EVER GIVEN ME IS TROUBLE! IF THERE WERE JUST SOME WAY I COULD GET RID OF HIM...



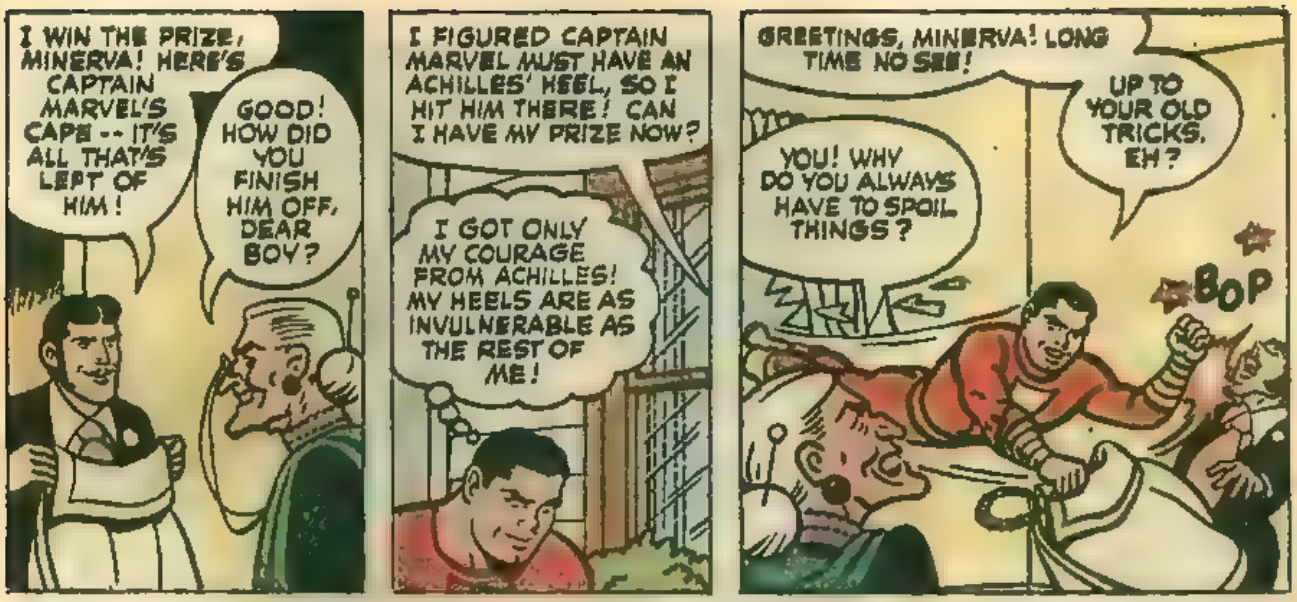
MINERVA CALLS IN HER TWO HOODS, OSKY THE OX AND PRETTY-PUSS PETE...
I HAVE A LITTLE CONTEST FOR YOU BOYS! THE ONE WHO WINS WILL GET A FABULOUS PRIZE!
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS DEFEAT CAPTAIN MARVEL!
ULP
GULP
NOBODY CAN HANDLE DAT GUY! HE'S TOUGH!
WELL, SO AM I, OSKY...
YEEOW! OO-OW
STOP!
SLAM
BAM
MERCY, MINERVA! I'LL DO ANYTHING YA SAY!
THEN GO GET CAPTAIN MARVEL!
HOW ABOUT YOU, PETE?
I'M W-WILLING T-TO CONCEDE THE P-PRIZE T-TO OSKY!
NERVOUS, PETE? HERE -- I'LL GIVE YOU A LIGHT!
BAM
YOUR HAIR NEEDS A BETTER PART, TOO! AND YOUR NAILS NEED TRIMMING!
I'M GOING! --I'M GONE!
BAM
BAM
2

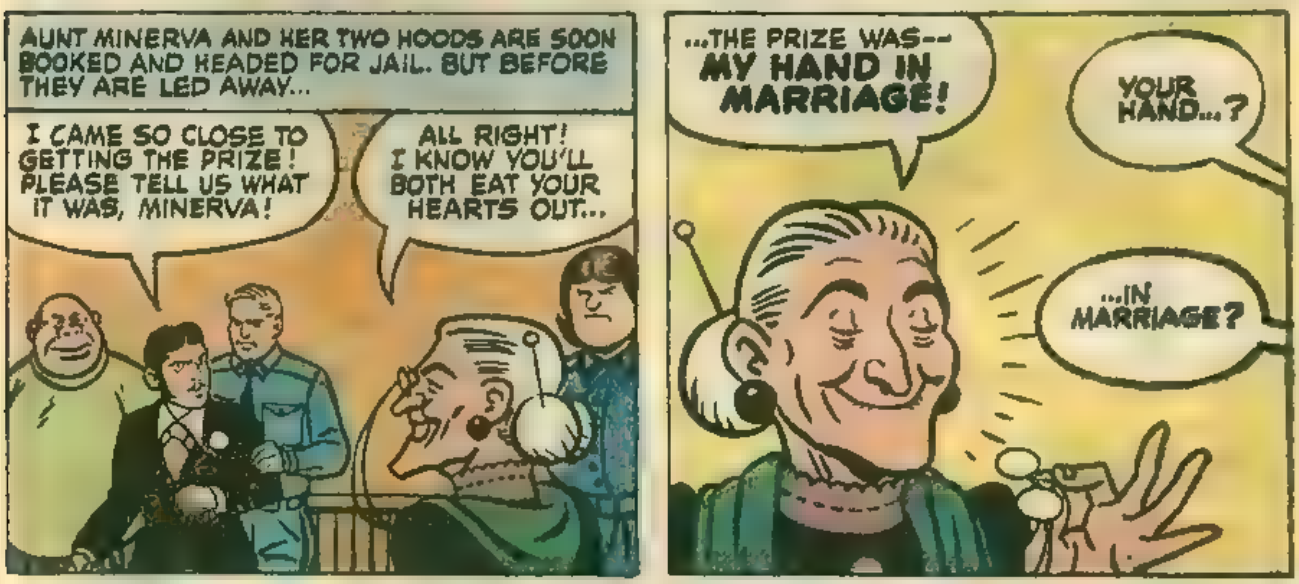
SOMEWHAT LATER, OSKY THE OX, RECOGNIZING BILLY BATSON, HAILS HIM ON THE STREET...
HEV--ER--KID! YA KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT TV SETS? I GOTTA GET MINE FIXED IN TIME FER BILLY BATSON'S NEWSCAST!
ISN'T THIS A COINCIDENCE?
I'M BILLY BATSON! AND I'M PRETTY GOOD AT FIXING TV SETS!
Y'ARE? COME WIT' ME, BILLY... GOSH! IT'S A REAL THRILL TA MEET YA!
HERE'S MY TV! IT JUST DON'T COME ON!
H'MM! I'LL CHECK IT OUT!
HERE'S YOUR TROUBLE, SIR... IT ISN'T PLUGGED IN!
GEE! YER SURE SMART, BILLY...
...BUT NOT SMART ENOUGH! I GOTCHA!
HOLY MOLEY! I'VE BEEN TRAPPED!
NOW I'M GOIN' OUT TA FIND CAPTAIN MARVEL! WIT' YOU AS HOSTAGE I CAN FORCE HIM TA DO ANYTHING I WANT!
THIS GUY'S NOT TOO GOOD AT TYING GAGS! SOON AS HE TURNS AROUND...
SHAZAM!
MAGIC LIGHTNING BRINGS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!
BOOM
DID YOU SAY YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ME, PAL?
YEH!
3

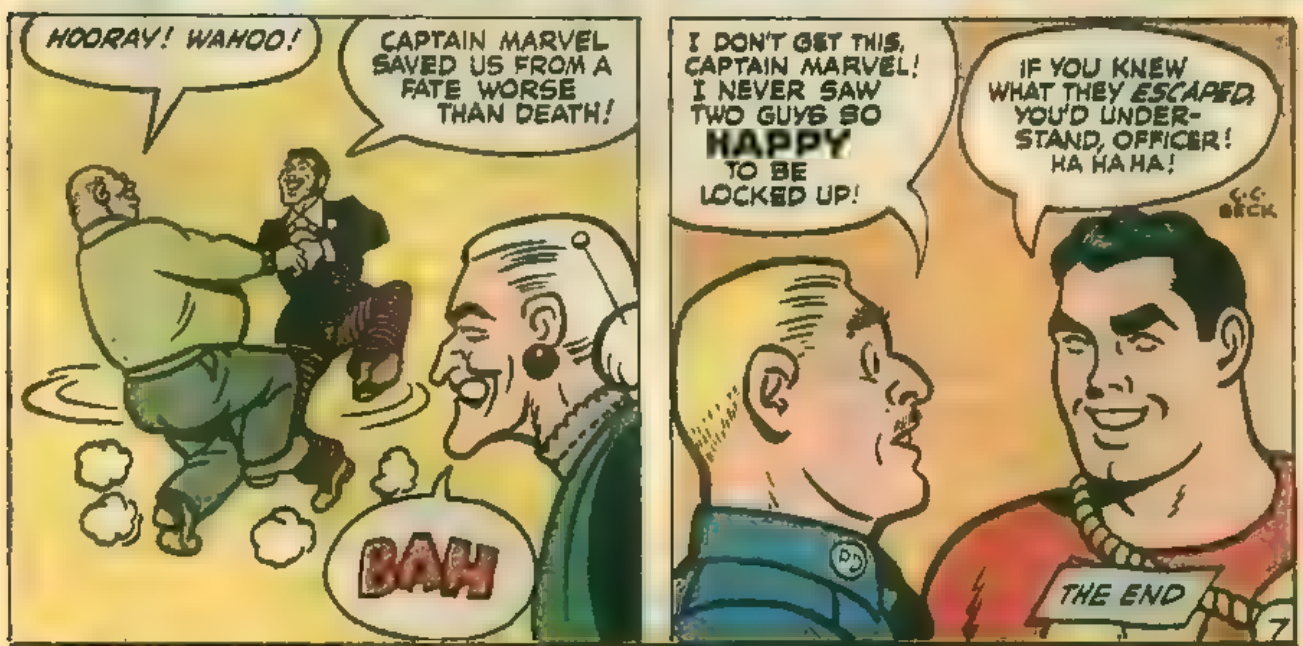
I GOT DAT FAMOUS TV KID, BILLY BATSON, TIED UP AN' GAGGED! IF YA WANTA SEE HIM AGAIN, YA'LL HAFTA LET ME BEAT YA UP!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN?
WELL, I USED TA BE A WRESTLER! I WAS SO MEAN I GOT KICKED OUTA DAT RACKET...
DO TELL!
DIS IS MY FAMOUS KILLER NECKLOCK!
YOU DON'T SAY!
IT'S USUALLY FATAL!
OOF! GRUNT!
WHEN DAT DON'T WORK I USE MY OSKY SLAM!
VER-R-RY INTERESTING!
DEN I BREAKS BOTH LEGS, AN'... PUFF! WHEEZE! I GUESS I'M OUTA CONDITION!
PANT!
GASP!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? GETTING TIRED ALREADY?
POOR CHAP! HE'S EXHAUSTED!
I'LL TAKE HIM TO A NICE, QUIET JAIL CELL WHERE HE CAN REST UP!
BLEAH!!!
CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING!
4

NOW LET'S SEE HOW PRETTY-PUSS PETE IS PLANNING TO WIN THE PRIZE...
I'VE FIGURED OUT THE ONLY POSSIBLE WAY TO BEAT CAPTAIN MARVEL! HE GETS HIS POWERS FROM SIX GODS AND HEROES -- INCLUDING ACHILLES!
ACHILLES COULD BE KILLED BY BEING HIT IN HIS HEEL... HIS ONE VULNERABLE SPOT!
SO CAPTAIN MARVEL MUST HAVE AN ACHILLES' HEEL, TOO!
I'LL WAIT FOR HIM HERE AT THE POLICE STATION... HE'S ALWAYS BRINGING IN SOME CROOK!
POLICE
THERE HE IS NOW-- AND HE'S GOT OSKY! THAT GUARANTEES HE WON'T WIN THE PRIZE!
OOHH! WHAT HAPPENED?
I GUESS I BLEW MY CHANCE AT DAT BIG PRIZE FOR FINISHIN' OFF CAPTAIN MARVEL!
BIG PRIZE?
TELL ME MORE! WHO IS GIVING THIS PRIZE?
I KNOW MY RIGHTS! I DON'T HAFTA SAY NUTTIN'!
HE'S RIGHT, CAPTAIN MARVEL!
WELL, SOMEONE ELSE IS SURE TO TRY! THEN I'LL FIND OUT WHO'S BEHIND THE WHOLE THING!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!
5

I DON'T KNOW WHICH HEEL IS THE VULNERABLE ONE, BUT THIS GRENADE WILL HIT THEM BOTH!
GOODBYE, CAPTAIN MARVEL-- HELLO, PRIZE!
BOOOM
IT WORKED! NOTHING'S LEFT OF CAPTAIN MARVEL BUT HIS CAPE!
I WIN! I WIN! I GET THE PRIZE!
I LEFT MY CAPE AS A DECOY! NOW I'LL FOLLOW THAT CROOK!
6


I WIN THE PRIZE, MINERVA! HERE'S CAPTAIN MARVEL'S CAPE -- IT'S ALL THAT'S LEFT OF HIM!
GOOD! HOW DID YOU FINISH HIM OFF, DEAR BOY?
I FIGURED CAPTAIN MARVEL MUST HAVE AN ACHILLES' HEEL, SO I HIT HIM THERE! CAN I HAVE MY PRIZE NOW?
I GOT ONLY MY COURAGE FROM ACHILLES! MY HEELS ARE AS INVULNERABLE AS THE REST OF ME!
GREETINGS, MINERVA! LONG TIME NO SEE!
YOU! WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO SPOIL THINGS?
UP TO YOUR OLD TRICKS, EH?
BOP


AUNT MINERVA AND HER TWO HOODS ARE SOON BOOKED AND HEADED FOR JAIL. BUT BEFORE THEY ARE LED AWAY...
I CAME SO CLOSE TO GETTING THE PRIZE! PLEASE TELL US WHAT IT WAS, MINERVA!
ALL RIGHT! I KNOW YOU'LL BOTH EAT YOUR HEARTS OUT...
...THE PRIZE WAS-- MY HAND IN MARRIAGE!
YOUR HAND...?
...IN MARRIAGE?


HOORAY! WAHOO!
CAPTAIN MARVEL SAVED US FROM A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH!
BAH
I DON'T GET THIS, CAPTAIN MARVEL! I NEVER SAW TWO GUYS SO HAPPY TO BE LOCKED UP!
IF YOU KNEW WHAT THEY ESCAPED, YOU'D UNDERSTAND, OFFICER! HA HA HA!
C.C. BECK
THE END
7

DC TAKES A GIANT STEP FORWARD IN '74!

SHAZAMAIL!

8-1669

c/o NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019.

Dear Editor:

Shazam #6 was great! *Dr. Sivana* ("Better Late Than Never") needs to return more often! I thought that only a story at least 12 pages long could feature *Sivana* the right way, but I was wrong.

"Dexter Knox and His Electric Grandmother" was good, too. Was *Dexter* around in the '40's?

"The Man Who Changed the World" was excellent. More *Marvel Family* stories (new ones, too)!

Now a few suggestions:

(1) Give us a few 12- to 20-page stories now and then.

(2) Return *Mr. Mind* and the *Monster Society of Evil*.

(3) Have other Fawcett heroes appear now and then. They could have been at the ceremony and put into suspended animation, too.

Craig Butler, Little Rock, Ark.

(Dexter Knox first appeared in Captain Marvel Adventures *#133; June, 1952. We'll have a new* Marvel Family *story next issue. And as for the rest of your suggestions—well, we're thinking about 'em.*—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Julie:

Because I am dating one of your more verbose letter-writers (Guess Who from Elmont, New York), I have been exposed to a great many of your delightful comic mags. One that I particularly enjoyed is *Shazam!* In fact, it made such an impression on me that when I recently acquired a new kitten, I decided to call her *Shazam*, in honor of your comic.

Unfortunately, the cat will only answer to the name of *Billy Batson.*

Holy Moley!

Laurie Neu, Huntington, N.Y.

(You obviously have a confused kitten. It's a female, you say, yet Shazam *and* Billy Batson *are boys' names. Try* Mary Batson. *And wait till Bob ("Elmont") Rozakis finds his girl has a letter in this issue—and he doesn't*—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

After six issues of *Shazam*, I am finally convinced ol' *Cap* is back to stay. But please! More *Marvel Family!*

It was good to see *Dexter* back again. *Billy's* old pals are quite interesting. How about striking up a romantic note with *Billy*? His girl friend is still alive, so please—some romance 'fore it's too late!

Rick Taylor, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.

(Okay, Cissie is back in this issue's lead story—and we promise she'll also be in the next issue. Happy?—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

It was the end of the Viet Nam War. The news of the day was primarily concerned with the return of the United States troops from Indo-China. Talk in our household that evening was about the return of *Captain Marvel*: my mother thought he was a P.O.W. Isn't that encouraging?

Jim Balko, Holden, Mass.

(Well, it's not far from wrong. I was just looking at an old Captain Marvel *story, which shows him hitting a super-villain. And guess what the sound effect is? Right*—POW!—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

I received the jolt of my life while out shopping for some comic magazines for remedial reading classes with my students! Lo and behold—the *Original Captain Marvel*, along with *Mary* and *Junior*—my twenty-year-long banished favorites were back! Snatching up as many copies of *Shazam* #1 as were displayed, I raced off eagerly to the classroom. By the way—the kids loved them. They were surprised to learn of the good *Captain*, and were equally enthralled with *Mary* and *Junior*. The *Sivanas* really cracked them up—especially *Sivana Senior* and *Georgia*, with her bubble gum!

From a twenty-nine-year-old longstanding *Marvel Family* fan, I thank you for bringing back the trio. I'd very much like to see the different renditions of your many talented artists on all three *Marvels.*

B. H. Park, Ignace, Ont.

(Here's one for you this issue—Bob Oksner trying his hand at Cap *and* Mary. *And next month, you'll see Kurt Schaffenberger back on the* Marvel Family *and* Cap *after more than twenty years!*—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Sirs:

I have just finished reading your latest *Shazam*, and I am delighted. I have a few of the original comics and your *Shazam* carries on the same greatness as those of the Golden Age. Each *Shazam* that I read brings back the wonderful childhood days of best buddies, gum cards, radio programs and *Captain Marvel.*

May God bless you as you bring joy and precious memories to both young and old.

Rev. Kenneth R. Ursiny, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

(Thanks—I know what you mean. Here's one Captain Marvel *fan who's experiencing what the late H. T. Webster called "The Thrill That Comes Once in a Lifetime"—working on stories of my boyhood hero!*—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

I have always liked *Superman* and I always will like him, but *Captain Marvel*, I think, is a little better.

Why? The simplicity of the artwork. Also his foes, such as *Mr. Mind* and *Sivana*. *Captain Marvel* is not your regular ho-hum hero. He has had some really good stories.

Michael Scanlon, Cleveland, Ohio

(That's your vote—who do the other readers pick as the top hero of the '70's? Cap *or* Superman? *Write and tell us, all of you.*—E.N.B.*)*

The address for all your comments is SHAZAMAIL, National Periodical Publications, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019.

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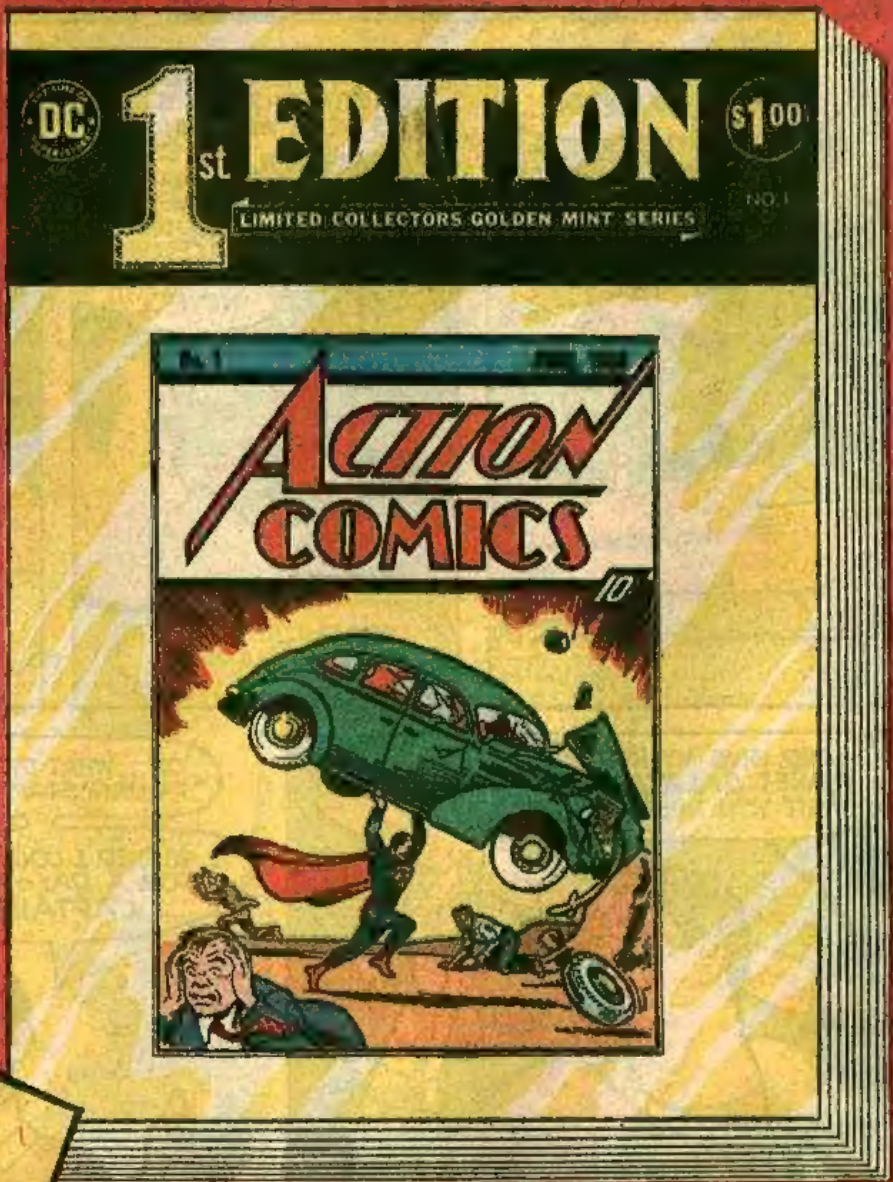

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